is to rapidly place satellite-based domestic broadcasting, communications and remote sensing on an operational basis and to develop indigenous launch systems for launching both communications and remote sensing satellites. The major projects under implementation or proposed to be taken up in the Seventh Plan under the S&T Sector include the Augmented Satellite Launch Vehicle (ASLV) Project for launching low-earth orbiting satellites of the 150kg. class; the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) for launching Remote Sensing satellites of the 900kg. class in polar sun-synchronous orbits to support the National Natural Resources Management Systems (NNRMS); initiation of the development of the Cryogenic Engine and Stage for the Geo-synchronous Launch Vehicle, capable of launching INSAT satellites into geo-stationary orbit; the Streched Rohini Series of Satellites (SROSS) for carrying scientific payloads; the Indian Remote Sensing Satellite and the INSAT-II Test spacecraft which will lead the way to operational second generation INSAT-II spacecraft during the 1990's. Some advanced, satellite-based scientific experiments may also be carried out.

In the INSAT operational sector, the two-satellite INSAT-I system will be completed by the launch on Ariane Launch Vehicle, of INSAT-IC spacecraft, procured from abroad; another satellite of the series. INSAT-ID also procured from abroad is expected to be launched in 1989 to replace the INSAT-IB at the end of its life.

(b) and (c) A National Rocket Launching Range already exists in Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh. The launch site for launching ASLV rockets and SROSS statellite is already operational. The launch site for launching PSLV Rockets is expected to be ready in two years, well before the scheduled launch of the first PSLV in 1989-90. The approved perspective plan for Space Research and Development activities for the decade 1980—90 includes establishment of a new satellite launch range, if necessary, in cooperation with other national agencies. Studies in regard to the establishment of an additional satellite launch range and its technical characteristics are underway. The Indian Satellites which will be launched from abroad are the Indian Remote Sensing Satellites, IRS-IA and IRS-IB, the INSAT-IC and ID, and the INSAT-II Test Spacecraft. The Indian Remote Sensing Satellite (IRS-IA) will be launched by a Soviet Launcher from a launch site in the Soviet Union in 1987. The INSAT-IC Satellite will be launched by a French launch vehicle, Ariane, in early 1988 from Kourou in French Guiana. Options for the other launches are still under study.

Documents on gold disposal seized from premises of smugglers

1952. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report that appeared in the Indian Express dated the 16th February, 1987 according to which the Economic Infelligence Bureau has recently seized documents on gold disposal during raids conducted on the premises of smugglers and disposal agents in Bombay;

(b) if so, the full details of the incriminating documents, unaccounted gold, jewellery, etc., seized during the saids; and

(c) the action contemplated by Government against the smugglers and agents involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) On 10-2-1987 an operation under the code-name 'Khukhri' was organised at Bombay by the Economic Intelligence Bureau in close co-ordination with the Directorate of

Revenue Intelligence, Customs authorities and local police. Several premises of gold smugglers and disposal agents were searched. As a result, incriminating documents like loose slips/ sheets of paper, note books and memo pads prima-facie indicating clandestine transactions of about Rs. 12.17 crores in contrabad gold were recovered and seized. Further a crude gold piece weighing 16 grammes and a gold sovereign weighing 8 grammes, Indian currency amounting to Rs. 11.45 lakhs, believed to be the sale proceeds of contraband gold, US $ 320. bearer cheques and other incriminating documents were also seized. A bullet proof jacket was also found and seized. As a follow-up action one bank account was frozen. In this connection 7 persons were arrested who have now been released on bail. As the case is under investigation it will not be desirable in the interest of effective investigations to disclose further details at this stage. However fullest effect of the rigours of law will be brought to bear on those found guilty.

Increase in Pak Defence Expenditure

1953. SHR D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governments attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in the Indian Express dated 22nd January, 1987 under the caption "Pak defence spending steadily increasing"; and

(b) if so, what steps government propose to take to strengthen the defence services and also to increase the defence expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government monitor all developments which have a bearing on our security and initiate appropriate measures to ensure full defence preparedness.

Review of India's Nuclear Policy

1954. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:
SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to have a rethinking on its well established policy of use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes, in view of the situation created by Pakistan by moving its army in an offensive position near the Indian border recently and the fact that the Pakistan's nuclear preparations for the purposes of war ear just two screw drivers away, as reported in the western press; and

(b) what is Governments information regarding the progress made by Pakistan in prefecting its nuclear technology for war purposes and whether this is causing a threat to India's defence preparedness?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) Government are concerned at the non-peaceful dimensions of Pakistan's nuclear programme. A constant watch is being kept on this aspect as on all others having a bearing on India's security.

(b) Government have seen reports regarding Pakistan's progress towards nuclear weapons capability. This development is a threat to India's security.

Grants and loans to Bihar

1955. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of grants given to Bihar by the Central Government during the last three years, year-wise;